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Bangalore Mirror

TEMP Max 28 | Min 20 | Humidity 85% Generally cloudy sky with one or two spells of rain Sensex 63,238 | Nifty 18,771 | Gold 59,450 | Silver 72,000 | Dollar 81.95 | Euro 89.90 | GBP 104.63

Study finds one more advantage to local species of trees — turns out they are more tolerant to pollution and can help regulate air quality more effectively

Return of the native

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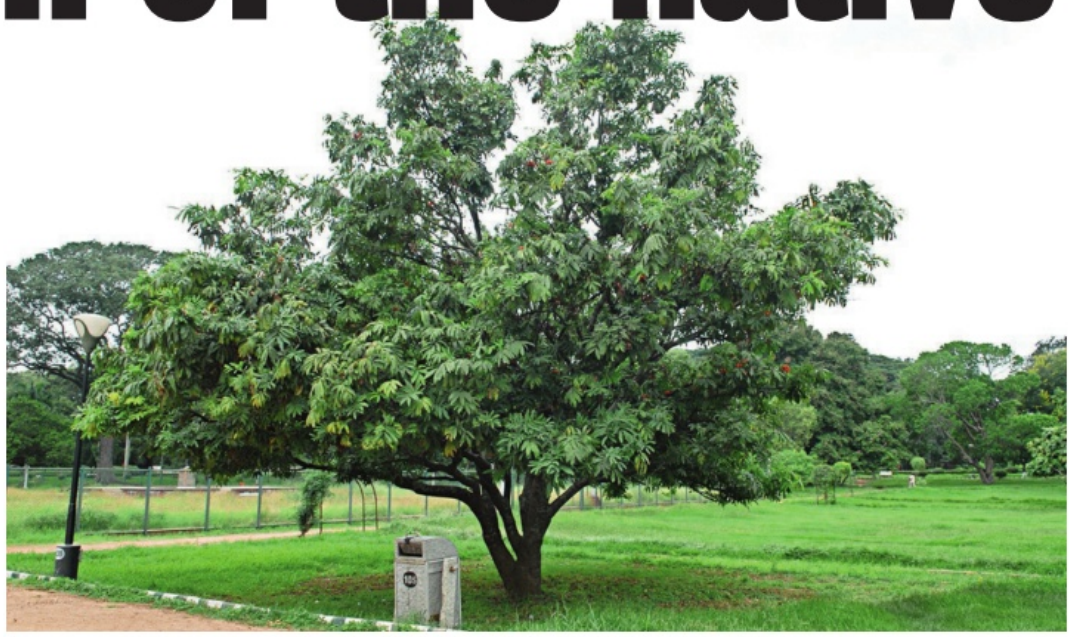
A study conducted by a city-based researcher to understand pollution tolerance levels among trees in the city has concluded that Peepal, Ashoka, Indian beech, jackfruit, and strawberry trees are the most tolerant and should be preferable tree choices for Bengaluru.

The researcher analysed as many as 12 tree species located in Bommasandra Industrial Estate, residential areas of HSR Layout, commercial areas in Koramangala, and a rural area near Central Jail to evaluate the pollution tolerance capacity and identify trees that can survive and thrive in polluted environments.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 9 »



CITY / PAGE 2

DEEP DEFICIT

54.29% deficit in rainfall in Bengaluru so far this year

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3 THINGS TO DO

01 A legendary evening

Renowned playback singer and recipient of prestigious awards such as Padma Bhushan and Padma Shree, KS Chitra is set to mesmerise audiences with her live concert " A Legends Tribute to the Eternal Legends of India." The South India Music Festival (SIMF) will showcase Chitra's timeless melodies in multiple languages, including Malayalam, Kannada, Hindi, Tamil, and Telugu. In addition to her own immortal repertoire, she will pay homage to music legends such as AR Rahman, Illayaraja, Lata Mangeshkar, and Asha Bhosle. The concert will take place on June 24, at Phoenix Market City, Whitefield. Tickets on Bookmyshow.com. **When: June 24, 7–10 pm; Where: Phoenix Market City, Whitefield**

02 Electric energy

Join the crowd for an electrifying edition of Redroom Fridays at Kitty Ko, The Lalit Ashok. Starting at 7 pm today, experience the captivating sounds of DJ Innam from Ukraine, along with AB+ and Artblot. Get ready to groove to the beats of melodic techno and progressive house. Innam is convinced that music is the universal language of happiness, which she has been sharing since 2017. Don't miss the chance to witness her colourful musical journey on the dance floor. **When: June 23; Where: Kitty Ko**

03 Bread and banter

Kickstart your weekend with a dose of laughter at Funny Fridays! Hosted by Shankar Chugani, this event at Qube Cafe in Koramangala showcases the talents of some of the funniest local comics. Indulge in delicious food while enjoying a lineup of hilarious acts. Shankar Chugani, a finalist from Amazon Prime Video's Comicstaan season 1, guarantees an evening filled with entertainment. Mark your calendars and invite your friends for an unforgettable experience. Join the audience every Friday, from June 23 to 30. **When: June 23–20; Where: Qube Cafe**

When it rains it pours, not

A rainy day in the city; 2022 was one of the wettest years in the city with 1,958.6 mm rainfall. 2023 seems to be the opposite so far

54.29% deficit in rainfall in Bengaluru so far this year

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The year 2022 was one of the wettest years in the city, with an annual rainfall of 1,958.6 mm. However, 2023 seems to be quite the opposite. Despite the hope for a revival of the monsoon, Bengaluru and Karnataka have experienced a significant rainfall deficit this year so far. The statistics reveal a deficit of 54.29% in rainfall for Bengaluru, 72.16% for the south interior regions, and 71.48% for the overall state. These numbers raise concerns about the monsoon season, with various weather agencies predicting decreased rainfall due to the influence of El Nino.

The impact of inadequate rainfall extends beyond agricultural concerns as it can also affect the availability of drinking water. Many reservoirs are witnessing a rapid decline in storage levels. For instance, the KRS reservoir currently stands at 78.5 feet, compared to 106 feet during the same period last year.

Additionally, the inflow into the reservoir is only 421 cusecs, significantly lower than the 2,398 cusecs recorded last year. Bengaluru heavily relies on Cauvery water for drinking purposes, and while officials assure no immediate issues for the next two months, a prolonged delay in monsoon rainfall could affect the water supply.

A Prasad, a scientist from the India Meteorological Department, explains that the progress of the Southwest monsoon in Karnataka was hampered by the Biparjoy cyclone, disrupting the monsoon circulation. "Although initial predictions indicated a normal monsoon, the next few weeks may see above-average rainfall in the south and north interior regions. Comparing the expected and recorded rainfall, Karnataka has received only 36.3 mm out of the typical 127.1 mm since June 1, resulting in a deficit of 90.8 mm.

Coastal areas have received 136.2 mm out of the expected 521.8 mm, while the south interior has received 27.4 mm out of the anticipated 98.5 mm. Bengaluru city, which expected 70 mm of rainfall, has only received 32 mm thus far. However, despite the lower-than-expected rainfall in Bengaluru, it still fares better in terms of percentage when compared to the overall state statistics," he said.

> **"Although initial predictions indicated a normal monsoon, next few weeks may see above-average rain in some regions**
>
> – A Prasad, scientist, IMD

The question now arises as to whether Karnataka will receive normal rainfall this season despite the El Nino effect. Reacting to this, Prasad said, "The normal rainfall range for Karnataka is 660 to 920 mm, and a deviation of around 19% from the projected 830 mm (from June to September end) would still fall within the normal category. In the case of Bengaluru, the normal range is between 420 to 700 mm out of the expected 600 mm.

Long-range forecasts predict normal rainfall for the four southern states, and the next two weeks are anticipated to have above-average rainfall. While Bengaluru may experience moderate to light rainfall in the coming days, no heavy rainfall alerts have been issued."

He said that a few weather patterns were at play which may bring rainfall for the next few days. "The presence of an upper air circulation at an altitude of 900 meters to 5.8 kilometres near the south and north coastal regions, along with troughs extending from the west central Bay of Bengal to Kerala, suggests increased rainfall prospects for coastal Karnataka and the south interior regions," he added.

Ride, not die

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Bollywood actor Vivek Oberoi appealed to youngsters on Wednesday to emulate their favourite heroes and villains who ride bikes at high speeds without wearing helmets in movies.

Speaking at an event organised in the city with the aim of creating awareness about responsible riding among bikers, Oberoi emphasised the importance of riding bikes responsibly and prioritising safety. He shared his personal experience of once receiving a challan from the police for not wearing a helmet while riding a bike and admitted that he now always wears a helmet. He made a heartfelt appeal to all bikers to wear helmets for their own safety. He said, "Reckless riding thrills, but it is dangerous."

He said that bikers should not be a menace. He expressed his belief that responsible bike riders would contribute to the economy and tourism, as well as be part of the future growth of Karnataka. He also recognised Karnataka's potential for bike tourism, mentioning other popular biking destinations like Himachal Pradesh, Goa, and Kerala. Having explored the beautiful locations in Karnataka during his 20-year stay, he expressed his enthusiasm for establishing bike riders clubs in all 29 states and a dedicated club for women within a year.

Bollywood actor Vivek Oberoi at an event in the city; he spoke about the importance of bikers riding responsibly

> **Vivek Oberoi shared his experience of once receiving a challan from cops for not wearing a helmet**

Go by the book

Schools seem to be ignoring kids carrying bags that are too heavy for them

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Provision of lockers at schools could reduce strain on kids

Parents complain that school children are being forced to carry heavy school bags and say there is no implementation of the School Bag Policy, 2020.

Recently, a Public interest litigation (PIL) filed at the Karnataka High Court regarding the weight of school bags was withdrawn by the petitioner. A few days ago, the Department of Public Instruction also issued a circular reiterating the Centre's School Bag Policy, 2020.

According to the circular, school children should be mandated to carry only school bags weighing 10-15 per cent of their body weight. The circular suggested that all aided and unaided schools restrict bag weight according to the norms suggested in the School Bag Policy.

As per the policy, schools are required to randomly check bag weight every three months. The survey found that 48.8 per cent of school heads said that they weigh the school bags of their children. Out of this, 19 per cent of school heads found that the bags for primary classes (I-V) were heavy. In general, the bags were found to weigh between two and three-and-a-half kg. Schools are also encouraged to provide adequate water and mid-meal provisions to avoid burdening children. Students are encouraged to carry books according to their timetable and restrict the number of notebooks in their bags.

However, parents say that there is hardly any enforcement in schools. "It's a very important issue as some schools are asking children to carry five-six kg along with lunch boxes and water bottles. It badly impacts their posture. My child is in the third standard, he is leaning forward while walking," said Sijo Sebastian, a parent.

Another parent said that their ward's current school has a locker policy, which reduces the burden. "In the case of the previous school, children had to carry extremely heavy bags. The bags were so heavy that they reached their waist level. Some schools provide advisories, but most schools don't follow these recommendations," said a parent.

Doctors say that carrying heavy bags can lead to the early onset of back and neck pain, which is uncommon in this age group. "It can increase the incidence of back pain in children and cause a forward stooped posture. In the long term, they can develop a postural round back. Studies have been conducted on army recruits, and it has been found that 10 per cent of body weight is the only acceptable limit. Beyond that, the posture changes. A typical child weighs around 30 kg, so they should not carry more than three kg," said Dr Jayanth Sampath, Consultant - Pediatric Orthopedic Surgeon at Rainbow Children's Hospital, Marathahalli.

Medical experts added that the provision of lockers at schools or having bags with wheels could help reduce the burden on kids.

VK Education Fair starts tomorrow!

The countdown has begun for Bengaluru's biggest education expo, the VK Education Fair, organised by Vijaya Karnataka and powered by Bangalore Mirror. The event will take place at the Jnana Jyothi auditorium, Central College campus, on Saturday and Sunday.

More than 35 top-rated educational institutions and universities will participate in this expo. Experts from these institutions will provide guidance and counselling to students regarding course selection, higher education options, application processes for educational loans and scholarships, as well as the facilities available at college campuses and hostels.

VK EDUCATION FAIR
Mark your calendar: June 24 and 25
Venue: Jnana Jyothi Auditorium, Central College
Time: 9.30 am to 5.30 pm
For more details, contact: 9916079232
For registration, please use the following QR code.

VK ಎಜುಕೇಷನ್ FAIR 2023
A PREMIER EDUCATIONAL EVENT
24th & 25th June 2023
Jnana Jyothi Auditorium, Central College Campus, Bangalore

What makes this fair even more exciting is that it is free for all parents and students to attend. Apart from being an educational experience, visitors to the fair will also stand a chance to win prizes. By participating in a lucky draw, attendees stand a chance to win two electric vehicles worth Rs 1.25 lakh. There will be one lucky draw held on both Saturday and Sunday, with two participants being chosen as winners through a draw of lots.

The fair will feature interesting and engaging sessions, expert guidance on KCET and COMEDK, information on scholarships provided by top universities and colleges, interactions with experts about professional courses, and face-to-face discussions with institutions.

– Prakash VL

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Sit down, be patient

Minister says 'no' to standing in long-distance buses; urges women availing of free travel scheme to space out their pilgrimage trip plans

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With the weekend approaching, the KSRTC staff is preparing for a surge in ridership. Last weekend set a record as more women riders than expected boarded the state transport corporation buses. Therefore, the staff has been advised to make extensive preparations to handle any additional ridership.

Transport Minister N Ramalinga Reddy said, "I have strictly instructed officials to allow passengers only as per the available seats." Over the past few days, since the introduction of the Shakti scheme, buses heading to tourist or pilgrim centres have experienced an unusual rush. Due to limited buses, most passengers have been accommodated. In fact, a viral video on social media depicted a conductor sitting on the luggage deck to issue tickets due to the overwhelming rush. Reddy added, "Officials have been instructed to avoid allowing standing passengers as much as possible in the long run." He said it is acceptable to allow standing passengers for short distances of seven to eight kilometres. However, it is not feasible to allow standing passengers on buses operating for 200 to 300 kilometres. This places undue stress on the staff.

Since the introduction of the Shakti scheme, a record-breaking 5,40,07,124 women have travelled on state transport corporation buses. As a result, the government is obligated to reimburse Rs 126,72,99,929 to the state transport corporations, as zero tickets were issued to women riders. Among all the transport corporations, BMTC had the highest ridership with 1,80,81,216 passengers, followed by KSRTC with 1,57,48,205 passengers, NWKRTC with 1,30,97,057 passengers, and KKRTC with 70,80,646 passengers.

Women on board a BMTC bus; since the Shakti scheme, 5,40,07,124 women have travelled on state transport corporation buses

Reddy also had a suggestion for women passengers. He said, "I am clarifying to all women that the Shakti scheme will be available for the next five years. Please do not pay attention to rumours. Therefore, I request all of you not to rush to pilgrimage centres today. Instead, I urge everyone to plan their trips in a phased manner. If everyone goes at once, it will adversely affect many people as regular users depend on these buses. This situation may also impact school children and daily commuters who rely on the bus service. I seek cooperation from women employees. I have informed the Managing Director that standing commuters can be allowed on shorter routes." Based on the information available to us, once the college semester begins, the current rush is expected to decrease.

> **"The Shakti scheme will be available for the next five years. Do not pay attention to rumours** – Transport Minister N Ramalinga Reddy

With a greater-than-expected response to the scheme, rumours have surfaced that the government may soon introduce new travel guidelines. Officials have suggested that only passengers with reservations should be allowed to board the bus, enabling them to have a fair idea of the number of travellers.

However, when asked about the new guidelines for Shakti travel, Reddy stated, "We will assess whether the pressure eases or not. If it does not ease, then we may need to develop alternative plans. It is important to ensure that free travel continues without negatively impacting regular commuters."

'Don't mock free rides'

KSRTC has issued a circular stressing the importance of respectful behavior towards passengers, particularly women commuters. The circular warned of action against staff in case of any complaints from the public. "Don't mock women passengers for traveling without tickets. Drivers and conductors have been instructed to ensure the smooth boarding of women commuters. The zero-ticket system still ensures reimbursement from the government, underscoring the corporation's responsibility to facilitate the boarding of women passengers. Any staff member found behaving indecently will face strict consequences," the circular stated.

In addition, KSRTC has intensified its inspection of services within the state and neighboring states. In May 2023, a total of 44,052 buses were checked, resulting in the detection of 3,266 pilferage cases and the penalisation of 3,636 ticketless passengers. A fine collection of Rs 5,894,453 was recorded, along with the detection of a pilferage amount of Rs 73,859.

Can Bengaluru follow Chennai's steps?

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Chennai, corporates can now pre-book metro tickets for their employees ahead of their journey. Authorities have allowed pre-booking of QR tickets in bulk by corporates, which will then be provided to employees in printed form through invitations prior to events. At the automatic fare collection gates, employees can simply tap their QR codes printed on the invite and enter their respective platforms. The move is being made in an effort to encourage more employees to switch their mode of commute to the metro. Such a move is also necessary in Bengaluru, say public transport backers.

The Chennai Metro Rail Limited (CMRL) recently conducted a trial run where a corporate company bought 5,000 pre-booked tickets for an employee and family meet-and-greet event. While the invite will have the QR code on the front, it will have other details regarding the event on the back. They also said that the initiative will help corporates build their brand as they are opting for eco-friendly solutions while increasing employee participation.

Commuters at the Whitefield metro station; In Chennai, corporates can now pre-book metro tickets for their employees ahead of journey

Sanjana Rao, an IT employee, said, "Many of us have already made a switch to metro travel, but when pre-booked tickets are provided by companies during events, it will give those who travel by other modes a chance to try the metro. If it is convenient, they may consider making a permanent switch.

Most companies provide cab services. They could instead encourage their employees to switch to public transport."

On the other hand, Krishna Gowda, General Secretary of Outer Ring Road Companies Association (ORRCA), said that the metro is yet to be extended to other IT pockets in the city. "Our companies would be open to buying metro tickets if they were provided in bulk, but they are yet to even complete the metro line in our vicinity," he said. Thirteen stations are planned for the 19 km Outer Ring Road (ORR) line that will run from Central Silk Board to KR Puram and is estimated to be operational by 2025-26. After the development of Electronic City and Whitefield, there has been growth of the IT industry between Central Silk Board and KR Puram.

Rajkumar Dugar, a mobility expert, said that the metro should provide an incentive for those who opt to pre-book in bulk. "It will promote more bulk purchases. For example, a 10% discount. The BMRCL must not consider it a loss as it is very likely that not all the people who have been given the pre-booked tickets will show up; 10% of them may miss out," he said.

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Pavement peril

Kalpana Chawla

The footpath by the side of Sastry memorial hall near Kalpana Chawla road in Sanjaynagar is dangerous.

On the edge

Munnekolala

The edge of the road near Munnekolala road towards VVS school in Marathahalli is unsafe.

Littering around

Somasundarapalya

Miscreants throw food all over the newly developed Somasundarapalya lake premises, attracting hundreds of rodents/rats.

Cops' duty call: All hands on deck

DCPs, SPs asked to visit one police station daily, conduct night rounds once a week

Bangalore Mirror Bureau
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Director General & Inspector General of Police (DG&IGP) Alok Mohan asked all Deputy Commissioners of Police (DCPs) and Superintendents of Police (SPs) to visit one police station each day and conduct surprise night rounds at least once per week.

In order to do night surveillance, he also instructed them to do a surprise night round at least once a week. To check on the night beats, they must also log into the e-beat system. They must see to it that all subordinate police officers on beat duty and night rounds sign in to the e-beat system or app, said Alok.

The DG&IGP ordered all DCPs and SPs to visit one police station every day, if they are not otherwise engaged in bandobast or VVIP duty, in a directive that was issued on Wednesday. "During their tour, they must assess the efficiency of police stations. They must communicate not just with police officers but also with police constables and head constables, as well as with any other visitors or members of the public present at the police station," he said.

In the past few months, there have been instances where people have complained that the police officers take bribes or sometimes even refuse to file an FIR. In a recent case, a sub inspector was suspended for sexually harassing a woman who had come to file a complaint.

The new directive by Alok Mohan is to keep a check on the police stations and make police stations more people friendly.

Unsupervised at montessori, child turns violent

A boy was allegedly spotted striking a younger child repeatedly as the two were left unsupervised in the room for almost 10 minutes at a Bengaluru Montessori school. According to sources, the incident happened on Wednesday at the school in Chikkalasandra.

Citizens Movement East Bengaluru posted a video of the event to Twitter. The montessori employees appeared to have left a number of small children alone inside a room, as is seen in the CCTV footage.

A little child was approached by an older one who repeatedly smacked her in the back. The footage showed that the child struck the younger child a few more times before biting her head and kicking her hand.

A complaint has been registered at Subramanyapura Police Station for further investigation. —BMB

Fraudulent car loans: Man dupes banks in Goa, Karnataka

A 32-year-old man has been arrested from Bengaluru for allegedly cheating several banks in Goa by forging quotations of car showrooms and obtaining loans, police said on Thursday.

Deelip Rajegowda, the accused, was arrested by Karnataka police and handed over to the Goa authorities on Wednesday, said Superintendent of Police (North Goa) Nidhin Valsan. The branch manager of a bank at in Goa had lodged a complaint in July 2022 that a man obtained a loan of Rs 8 lakh by producing a fake quotation from a car showroom. He also provided a fake insurance copy showing hypothecation to the bank while a woman accomplice stood guarantor for, the complaint said. —PTI

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PARAVETS FOR 1962 AMBULANCE

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90-yr-old woman living in shed gets Rs 1 lakh electricity bill

Koppal (Karnataka), June 22 (IANS)- Girijamma, a 90-year-old woman living in a tiny shed at Bhagyanagar in Koppal city, was shocked when she got an electricity bill of Rs 1 lakh.

The aged woman used to pay Rs 70 to Rs 80 every month as a power tariff. Girijamma, struggling to earn her livelihood, was in tears and made an appeal to the media to bail her out of the situation.

After the media raised the question to the Minister for Power, K.J. George on Thursday, he said, "She got the bill that mentioned the wrong amount due to a glitch in the metre. She need not pay the bill."

Following the statement of the minister, the staff of Gulbarga Electricity Supply Company (Gescom) rushed to her shed.

The executive engineer, Rajesh inspected the power meter and maintained that it was a technical glitch. The inflated bill was generated because of the error of the staff and bill collector. He informed the woman that she need not pay the bill. The relieved old woman joined both her hands and thanked the officer and media.

The incident resulted in public outrage as the people across the state are unhappy about the hiked tariff rates and inflated bills.

The Congress government, which promised 200 units of free power for all households under the Griha Laxmi scheme, has been making all efforts to subdue the bitter feelings. The industrial bodies have also given a bandh call to protest against the increase in power tariffs. **–IANS**

US consulate in Bengaluru soon?

As confirmed by a senior White House official, the United States is set to establish two new consulates in Bengaluru and Ahmedabad, further enhancing people-to-people connections. Additionally, India eagerly anticipates its consulate opening in Seattle in 2023, while the US is actively exploring the possibility of announcing a new consulate in India. To streamline visa processing, the US Department of State will be launching a pilot to expedite renewals of certain petition-based temporary work visas later this year, benefitting Indian nationals and potentially expanding this program, said news reports.

Are coal power plants spewing sulfur?

Hardly any of K'taka's plants are complying with sulfur emission norms

Only 2.74% of Karnataka's coal-based power plants currently complying with sulfur dioxide emission norms

| Bangalore Mirror Bureau
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Karnataka coal-based power plants (CBPP) assessment shows that while the state has a total coal-based power capacity of 9,480 MW, only 2.74% of this capacity is currently complying with sulfur dioxide emission norms laid down by the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEFCC).

As per the norms laid down by MoEFCC, coal-fired thermal power plants have to install emission control equipment (Flue-Gas Desulfurization) to remove sulfur dioxide from waste gases.

The assessment by Delhi-based Center for Science and Environment (CSE) shows that while only 260 MW capacity is complying with emission norms as of April 2023, none of these plants are state-owned.

The emission norms were introduced in 2015, with 2017 as the deadline for compliance. However, the deadline extended to five years for all coal-fired TPPs, making December 2022 the new deadline to install emission control equipment. Coal-fired TPPs were also divided into three categories, each with a different deadline for compliance.

However, when it became evident that the majority of the TPPs located close to cities (less than 10 kilometres) with a million-plus population will miss the December 2022 deadline, MoEFCC decided to extend the deadlines for all three categories by another two years.

This high likelihood of compliance is also because all the coal-fired TPPs in Karnataka are placed under Category C

Finally, the report also highlights that 600 MW capacity is in a feasibility state and nearly all the power plants are likely to comply with the emission norms in time.

"This high likelihood of compliance is also because all the coal-fired TPPs in Karnataka are placed under Category C (those outside then 10 km radius of cities with million plus population, critically polluted areas or non-attainment cities) and have almost another four years to comply. Of the capacity that is likely to meet the norms, 75% has already awarded work orders to vendors for commissioning FGDs and 18 % has opened bids. However, Torangallu TPS (extension) of 600 MW is still at the feasibility stage of compliance," said the report.

India scenario

The assessment also reveals that only 5% of the coal power capacity (i.e., 10,710 MW) had complied with SOx emission norms and 17% of overall coal power capacity is still at the very initial stages of compliance.

A state-wise comparison shows that Maharashtra has the highest capacity for complying with the norms, followed by Gujarat, Uttar Pradesh, Haryana, and Tamil Nadu.

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Instead of relying on excessive salt to add flavour to your dishes, experiment with herbs and spices

WHAT'S YOUR LANGUAGE?

Everything you need to know about the five love languages

It's crucial to know your primary love language to strengthen your relationships, whether it's romantic or platonic. The concept of love languages was introduced by Gary Chapman, who suggests that people express and receive love differently. Understanding these differences can improve communication and intimacy with loved ones.

What are the 5 love languages?

Words of Affirmation
The first love language is words of affirmation. This means using words to express love and appreciation, such as saying "I love you," giving compliments, and providing encouragement.

Quality Time
The second love language is quality time. This means giving someone your undivided attention and spending time together, such as going on a date or engaging in a shared activity.

Acts of Service
The third love language is acts of service. This means performing acts that show love and care, such as cooking a meal, doing the laundry, or running errands.

Gifts
The fourth love language is gifts. This means giving/receiving tangible items that show love and thoughtfulness, such as flowers, chocolates, or a present.

Physical Touch
The fifth love language is physical touch. This means showing love through physical touch, such as holding hands, hugging, or cuddling.

How to Identify Your Love Language

According to Chapman, each person has a primary love language that determines how they feel most loved and appreciated.
Consider how you express love: Think about the ways you naturally show affection to others. Do you often give compliments, give gifts, or offer physical touch?
Reflect on what makes you feel loved: Consider the things that make you feel appreciated and loved by others. Do you feel most loved when someone gives you their undivided attention, or when they do something practical to help you out?
Identify your preferred communication style: Consider how you like to communicate with others. Do you prefer long conversations or brief, to-the-point interactions?
Observe your behaviour in relationships: Pay attention to your behaviour in past and current relationships. Do you tend to give love in the same way that you like to receive it?

Benefits Of Knowing Your Love Language Infographic

Create Empathy
Understanding your partner's love language requires empathy and a willingness to see things from their perspective. When you make an effort to understand how they feel loved, you create a more empathetic relationship where both partners feel seen and heard.

Promote Selflessness
Expressing love in your partner's love language often requires a bit of selflessness. It may mean prioritising quality time together or going out of your way to do an act of service for them. By doing so, you show your partner that you care about their needs and wants, which can create a more giving and selfless dynamic in the relationship.

Maintain Intimacy
Intimacy goes beyond physical touch in a relationship. It also involves emotional intimacy, which is crucial for a healthy partnership. Understanding and expressing love in your partner's preferred love language can help maintain emotional intimacy and deepen your connection.

Aid Personal Growth
Understanding your partner's love language can also aid in personal growth. By recognizing and expressing love in the way that they receive it best, you can build a stronger relationship and work on your own personal growth simultaneously.

Share Love in Meaningful Ways
Finally, understanding and speaking your partner's love language allows you to share love in the most meaningful way possible. Rather than guessing how to express love to your partner, you can communicate and connect on a deeper level by using their preferred love language.

Criticisms

The five love languages concept is a widely popular framework for understanding how people give and receive love. However, it has also received some criticisms.

Misuse

One of the criticisms of is that people may use them as an excuse for not putting in the effort to improve their relationship. For example, someone may say, "My love language is quality time, so if my partner doesn't spend enough time with me, our relationship won't work."

Don't Fix Other Problems

Another criticism is that the Love Languages cannot solve deeper relationship issues, such as incompatibility, trust issues, or communication breakdowns. While understanding one's Love Language can help improve communication and empathy, it cannot address fundamental problems.

May Lead to Pressure

The Love Languages may also put pressure on partners to express love in specific ways, even if it doesn't come naturally to them. For instance, if someone's Love Language is receiving gifts, their partner may feel compelled to buy them gifts even if they have different ways of expressing love. This pressure can lead to feelings of resentment or frustration, rather than promoting authentic expressions of love.

Perpetuate Heteronormativity

Lastly, some critics argue that the Love Languages framework reinforces heteronormative and gendered expectations of relationships. For example, physical touch is often associated with male partners, while acts of service may be seen as more feminine. Additionally, the Love Languages do not account for different cultural expressions of love and may not be applicable to all types of relationships.

— by Mahek Jain (Femina)

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CHANGE OF NAME

I, Shiny Abraham Bennett D/o V A Abraham Ex-W/o Akilesh Bennett R/o 119/1, 3rd Cross, Rajanna Layout, Horamavu Agara, Bangalore, Karnataka-560043, declare that I got divorce from my husband vide Court Decree No. M.C.No.6403 /2021 and date of disposal on 13/12/2021, declare that I have changed my name to Shiny Abraham

I, Nethravathi M D/o Madhu Kumar G R/o No.11, Manjunatha Colony, Opp SSM public school, Thyagrajnagara, Bengaluru 560028 have changed my name to GAGANA MADHU KUMAR affidavit Dt.22/06/2023 notary Harisha G, B'luru

I, SUNNY .K S/o Krishnappa R/a No.38/2, 3rd Cross, Near Govindappa Sweets & Bakery, Sunkadakatte, Bangalore-91 have changed my name to RAKSHITH NAREN affidavit dated 14.06.2023 before notary C.K Anupama, Bangalore.

I Kamalesh Arjunlal Sanghvi S/o Arjunlal Dalchand Sanghvi R/o No:- Flat No H 306 Eta Star Garden Apartments Binny Mill Road K P Agrahara Bangalore 23 have changed my name to Kamalesh Kumar for all purposes.

I, Jharanasri D/o Shankar Das R/o 2509, 10th Main, Near Ambabhavani temple, D-block, Rajajinagar, Bengaluru 560021 have changed my name to Jharanasri Rekhadas affidavit Dt.22/06/2023 notary Harisha G, B'luru

I, Prachi Gore R/o Flat No 605, Block-15, Suncity Apartments, Iblur, Sarjapur Outer Ring Road, Bengaluru-560102 have changed my name to Prachi Deodatta Gore

I Divyadarshani W/O, Kumaravelu R S R/o #86/1, 3rd Main , 1st Cross , Sarvabovmanagar Chikkalasandra Bangalore 560061 have changed my name to Divyadarshini

I Rinku Sanghvi W/o Kamalesh Kumar R/o No:- Flat No H 306 Eta Star Garden Apartments Binny Mill Road K P Agrahara Bangalore 23 have changed my name to Rinku K Sanghvi for all purposes.

I Dolly Kumari W/O, Amit Kumar R/o 902, Clarence A, Sjr Bluewaters, Silver County Road, Parappana Agrahara, Bangalore 560068 have changed my name to Dolly Gupta

I Neelesh Kamleshsingh Singh S/O, Kamlesh Ram Singh R/o D 701 Orchid Whitefield, Hagadur, Whitefield, Bangalore-560066 have changed my name to Neelesh K Singh

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I, Sunu Joseph, residing at No A 306, Sri Sai Supreme apartment, opposite to Nandi park apt, Gottigere , Bannerghatta road ,Bangalore - 76 here by state that I have lost my original puc marks card , Id no - 65352, place of issue: St Joseph college for women and I have lost my sslc original marks card, id no - 488814, place of issue - kerala state school, While travelling. If anyone found please contact above address or Call:9980911998

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'Plight of schools pricks conscience'

Court observes condition of infra in government schools so pathetic that parents may hesitate to send kids there

The High Court of Karnataka has expressed its displeasure over the government's inaction in providing infrastructure, including toilets in state-run schools in accordance with the norms of the Right to Education Act (RTE). The court observed that parents would hesitate to send their children to government schools in this situation.

A bench comprising Chief Justice Prasanna B Varale and Justice MJS Kamal, which heard the Public Interest Litigation (PIL) on its own based on media reports about school dropouts, said its conscience is pricked at the plight of the schools. After examining the report and photographs submitted by the government, the bench found that the condition of toilets in the schools was very pathetic. The area around the school toilets were overgrown with shrubs.

The bench questioned whether it was the same in the homes of the officers who had submitted such a report. What kind of society is expected to be developed if the basic necessities in schools aren't available? the HC asked.

Justice MGS Kamal sought to know if the officers who filed the report would send their children to such schools. It said the officers seem to have a 'chalta hai' attitude.

Noting that the hearing of the PIL was going on since 2013, the court said there seems to be no change on the ground and it was pained at the situation. The future of the country was in danger because of the situation in government schools. The government advocate informed the court that the infrastructure in schools was provided as per the available government grants. Not satisfied with this submission, the bench said that budgetary grants to education should be reserved for this purpose and should be mandated to be spent within a timeframe.

The HC directed that a fresh survey of government schools should be held in the next three months and member secretaries of the District Legal Service Authorities should be part of this. It also directed that in the next hearing of the PIL the report submitted by the government should be mandatorily countersigned by the Legal Service Authority officers. – PTI

Condition of government schools in the state not up to the mark, many do not have functional toilets too

Notice to Centre on Xiaomi's petition

The division bench of Karnataka High Court has issued a notice to the Centre on Xiaomi's petition against the single bench order in connection with seizure of Rs 5,551.27 crore for alleged violations of the Foreign Exchange Management Act (FEMA) by the Enforcement Directorate (ED).

The bench issued the notice on Wednesday while looking into the appeal petition by Xiaomi Technology India Private Limited seeking remedy under Section 37A of the FEMA Act.

The High Court had rejected the plea by the Chinese firm Xiaomi against the seizure of Rs 5,551.27 crore from its bank accounts by the ED on April 21. – IANS

Take cover under the canopy

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

"We conducted the study to evaluate air pollution levels and their impact on the health and vitality of plant life. We analysed it by calculating the Air Pollution Tolerance Index (APTI) of the trees based on factors such as Ph level, total chlorophyll, ascorbic acid, and water content of the leaves from trees belonging to all 12 species," said Dr Priyadarshini Pillai, researcher and head of Department of Botany, Jyoti Nivas College.

Tree species were selected based on various factors, including their abundance in the area, ecological importance, and potential as bioindicators of air pollution, ecological relevance, and susceptibility to pollution.

The results showed that jackfruit is the best-suited tree species for areas with relatively lower air pollution. However, Ashoka is compatible with residential areas of Bengaluru and Indian beech trees can be planted in commercial areas. Experts define APTI as a measure of a plant's ability to tolerate and mitigate air pollution. Trees with a high APTI can thrive in polluted environments and effectively reduce air pollution levels in the area.

Plants with high APTI are also more resistant to the damaging effects of air pollutants such as sulfur dioxide, nitrogen dioxide, ozone, and particulate matter. They can absorb and break down these pollutants through various mechanisms such as leaf stomata, biochemical reactions, and deposition on leaf surfaces.

"ATPI values can be used to choose appropriate plant species based on the air pollution index of the area. Areas with significant pollution levels should have trees with greater APTI value.

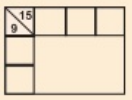
This will help regulate air quality more effectively and ensure better design of green space in and around industrial and urban belts. APTI may be used to bioremediate a specific region since it identifies organisms that can survive there," added Dr Pillai.

She also highlighted that while the current selection of avenue trees in Bengaluru is dominated by exotic flowering species, it may be worth considering a more diverse planting approach that includes a mix of native species. Tree experts also opine that it is important for decision-makers to collaborate with experts in environmental science and urban planning to utilise the APTI technique effectively.

"By incorporating native trees with high APTI values into urban landscapes, it may be possible to enhance the city's ability to mitigate air pollution, improve ecosystem services, and support local biodiversity. Continuous monitoring, data analysis, and a holistic approach to urban development can help translate APTI findings into actionable measures to promote a healthier and more sustainable environment in Bengaluru," she said.

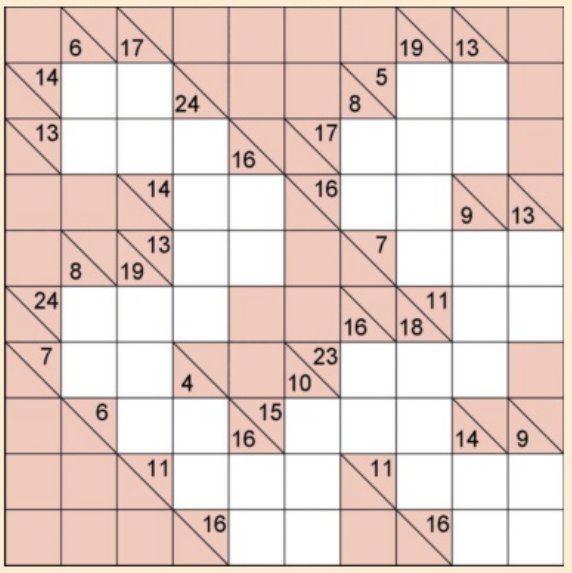
Kakuro

The numbers in the grey squares refer to the sums of the digits that you must fill into the empty spaces directly below or to the right of the grey square containing the number. For instance, in the given example, the 3 boxes horizontally next to 15 must contain 3 digits that add up to 15, whereas

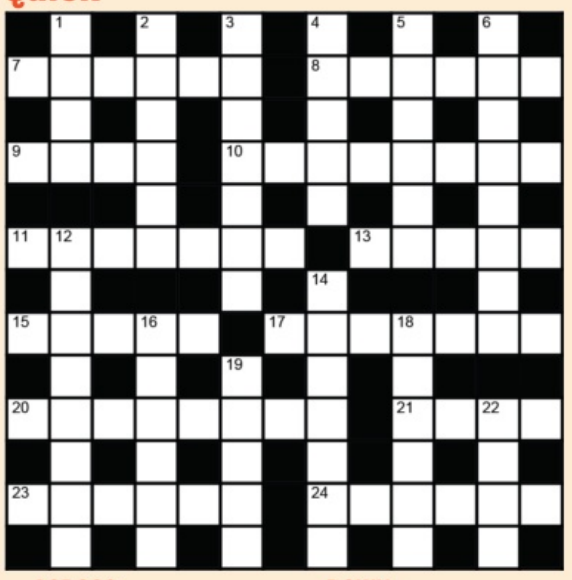


for 9, it is the 2 boxes placed vertically under it that must add up to 9. No zeros are used here, only the digits 1 through 9.

Note: A digit cannot appear more than once in any particular digit combination. For instance, in the example, we cannot have the combination of 4+7+4 for 15.



Quick



ACROSS

7 Agriculturalist (6)
8 Expresses or verbalizes (6)
9 Indian goddess (4)
10 Racing vehicle (5-3)
11 Matured–"end pier" anagram? (7)
13 Answer (5)
15 Totted up (5)
17 Introductory piece of music (7)
20 Suggesting or insinuating (8)
21 Smoke–and be angry? (4)
23 In ___ : all in one voice or all together (6)
24 More profound (6)

DOWN

1 Festive occasion (4)
2 Drink or absorb (6)
3 Clutched or held firm (7)
4 Par ___ : by airmail, but in French ? (5)
5 Preserve in vinegar (6)
6 Itemised (8)
12 Wanted or popular? (2,6)
14 Turn "a bridge" around to get a popular road (7)
16 Sign up; enrol (6)
18 Elevated (6)
19 Oversized (5)
22 Mild and humble (4)

Quoteuncode

This puzzle is a substitution cipher in which one letter stands for another. If you think that Q equals C, it will equal C throughout the puzzle. Single letters, short words and words using an apostrophe give you clues to locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error.

Today's CLUE: N EQUALS R

YNUES GUZ'R UNNVNR ENU SV HU WUZUNESUP ER GVNU ONLDSOLX STEZ XDSSXU GUZ'R SNLSTR.

Linemaro

If rain drop were kisses, I send you showers. If hugs were seas I send you oceans, and if love was a person, I send you me

Mindchow

Try to be like the turtle, at ease in your own shell

Joke of the day

I tried water polo, but my horse drowned

Loop

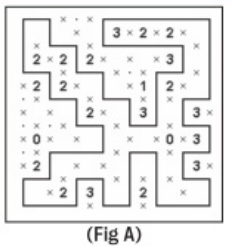
Rules

» Connect adjacent dots with vertical or horizontal lines, creating a single loop (Fig A). » Crossovers or branches are not allowed (As shown by dotted lines in Fig B). » Numbers in the puzzle indicate the number of lines that should surround it, while empty cells may be surrounded by any number of lines. » You can't draw lines around zeros. » Each puzzle has just one unique solution.

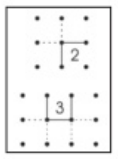
How to begin:

Example (Fig A) – Begin with the zero next to 3. Since no lines can be drawn around zero, mark crosses around it, as shown. Now there is a cross in one space around 3. So we know the three lines of 3 can only be drawn in the remaining three spaces. Next, these lines can only be extended in one direction each. Continue, using the same logic.

Hints: Keep eliminating possibilities by marking crosses in spaces between dots where a line isn't possible, i.e., if you have already completed required lines or where a line extension may create a branch or cause a dead-end (Fig B)

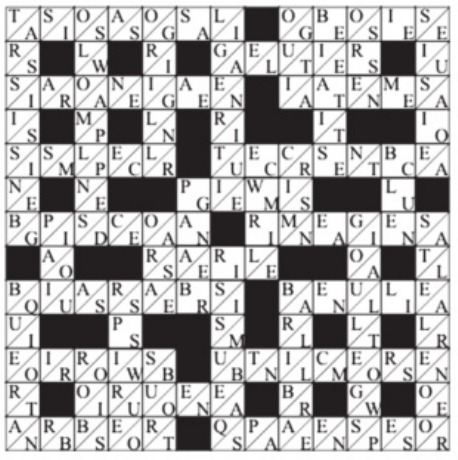


(Fig A)



(Fig B) Not Allowed

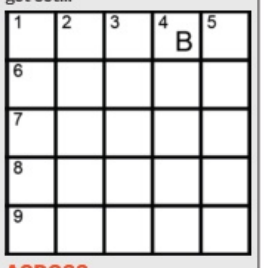
Strikeout



This crossword has no clues and the answer is there waiting for you. All you have to do is find it in each square. You have a choice of two letters, one of which you must strike out. If you choose correctly, you will be left with a grid that contains real words.

Fast five

How long do you think it will take you to unscramble the ten words shown below and fit them correctly into the grid in the order given one letter has already been entered to get you started? on your marks, get set...



ACROSS

1 Barb I; 6 Solid;
7 Largo; 8 So bee;
9 Sores

DOWN

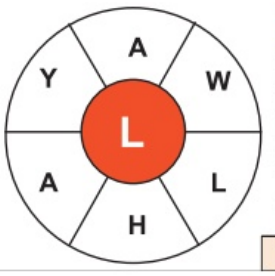
1 Or rig; 2 Boa do;
3 Boers; 4 Basel;
5 Less I

Mensapuzzle

What number should replace the question mark?

4	7	3	8	9	2
?	9	0	2	5	1
5	1	6	3	5	9

Bull's eye



How many words of four or more letters can you make from the letters shown? Every word must contain the central letter. There should be one seven-letter word. British English Dictionary is used as a reference.

04 Average; 05 Good; 06 Outstanding

SudokuChallenge

	3					6		
1		8	9			3		
				3	4			5
	5	1	7				3	6
		9				7		
7	8				1	4	5	
8			3	4				
		2			9	5		7
		7					8	

To solve a Sudoku puzzle, every digit from one to nine must appear in each of the nine vertical columns, in each of the nine horizontal rows and in each of the nine boxes.

Gofigure

Place the four numbers in the first, third, fifth, and seventh boxes and whatever operators you care to use in the second, fourth, and sixth boxes in the correct order to get the answer. Use the numbers only once.

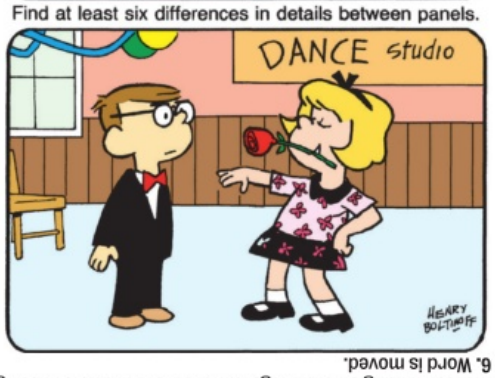
Easy = 7
4 4 8 9

Medium = 18
2 4 4 8

Hard = 54
4 6 8 5

Hocusfocus

Find at least six differences in details between panels.



Differences: 1. Stem is longer. 2. Arm is raised. 3. Leg is moved. 4. Rung on chair legs is moved. 5. Balloon is missing. 6. Word is moved.

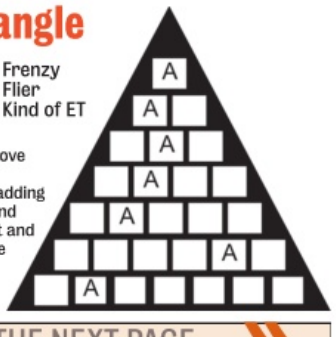
Riddler

Once again, the Booker Prize panel are sitting. And again an excerpt from a book has some key words missing. Can you fill in the blanks so the story makes sense and also spot the connection between them? Mr. Ix was speeding through the streets of Wimbledon, when he was pulled over by a police officer. "It isn't my ____!" wailed Mr. Ix noisily. "It ____ you right," replied the officer. "Will it come to ____?" Ix inquired. "If you keep up this ____ it will," the officer replied severely. "It is not as if I gained any ____," Ix said ____edly. "I would ____ to ____ you off with a caution," admitted the officer, "but I can't allow you through the ____ on this one," he continued.

Alpha triangle

1 First letter
2 In the morning
3 Chap
4 Water pipe
5 Frenzy
6 Flier
7 Kind of ET

Beginning at the top move towards the bottom seven-letter word by adding a letter at each step and rearranging. A correct and different word must be made at each step answering to the clue given.



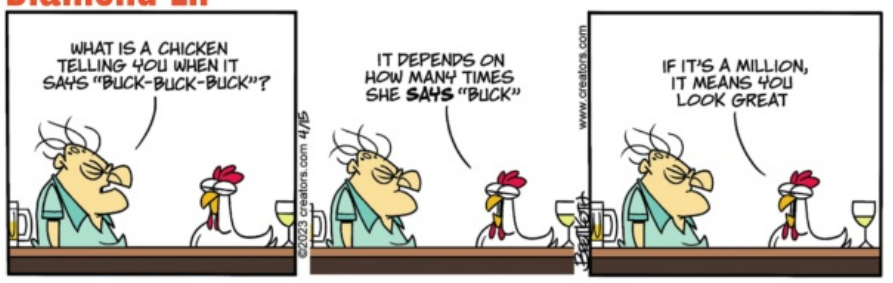
DIFFICULT TO SOLVE? FIND THESE SOLUTIONS ON THE NEXT PAGE »

COMICS

Redeye by Mel Casson

Bizarrotrip

Diamond Lil


WHAT IS A CHICKEN TELLING YOU WHEN IT SAYS "BUCK-BUCK-BUCK"?
IT DEPENDS ON HOW MANY TIMES SHE SAYS "BUCK"
IF IT'S A MILLION, IT MEANS YOU LOOK GREAT
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www.creators.com

Hart of the city

MAKE SURE YOU HAVE A BUDDY! I DON'T WANT ANY OF YOU GETTING LOST AT THE FARM!
I DON'T THINK ANYONE'S GETTING LOST OUT HERE.
WHERE WOULD WE HIDE? UNDER-GROUND?
HEART OF THE CITY © 2023 ANDREWS MCMEEL
@COMICS.COM/HEARTOFTHECITY

Crankshaft

I JUST DON'T UNDERSTAND PEOPLE!
JUST LOOK AT ALL OF THE LITTER I PICKED UP ON MY WALK!
YOUR DAD MANAGES TO GET EXERCISE AND EXORCISED AT THE SAME TIME!
BATLIK & DAVIS tombatliuk.com/books
© 2023 Mcgraphics, Inc. Dist. by Andrews McMeel Syndication
4-12

Mutts

EARL, I'M OVER BEING UPSET ABOUT BEING A DOMESHTIC CAT.
GOOD. WHAT CHANGED YOUR MIND?
I JUST THOUGHT I COULD BE SHOMETHING WORSE.
LIKE WHAT?
ARF.
mutts.com
4-15

WHAT YOUR STARS SAY TODAY

Aries Mar 21 – Apr 20
Today, you are blessed by the positive moon. You may be healthy and able to focus on your goals. Your performance at work may be very good, and your boss may be very happy with you. You may also receive some important responsibilities at work. Additionally, you may hear good news regarding any legal matters. You are likely to have control over your opponents and business rivals.

Taurus Apr 21 – May 20
Today, you may feel more intellectual and have a preference for gaining knowledge. You may understand the value of intellectual assets. Sometimes, you may need to control your temper, which can help you perform your tasks smoothly. There may be some chances for smooth earnings, which can provide you with comfort in your workflow. However, be careful before making new investments in assets. You are likely to spend money on loved ones, and love birds may enjoy happy moments.

Gemini May 21 – Jun 21
Today, your moon becomes negative, and you may feel negativity around you. You might perceive your responsibilities as burdensome and be in a hurry to complete your assigned tasks. As a result, you may make silly mistakes, and your working efficiency may slow down, affecting your day-to-day work. Your projects may likely be delayed, which could also impact your ongoing projects. It is advised to seek advice from your elders before making any important decisions.

Cancer Jun 22 – July 23
Today, you are blessed by the moon, and you may receive good news from your siblings. You may spend time with family and friends, and with the help of creativity, you may plan to renovate your house or office. Starting new partnerships with family members can be beneficial in the near future. Additionally, your subordinates at the office may assist you with your projects.

Leo Jul 24 – Aug 23
Today, you may feel negative as tasks remain incomplete. You might experience mood swings, and your patience may be tested multiple times. Silly mistakes may confuse you and hinder your work completion. Love birds may find themselves confused about their feelings, and having high expectations could affect your emotional attachment with your spouse. Students may experience a loss of concentration.

Virgo Aug 24 – Sep 23
Today, the positive moon may bring you happiness and peace of mind. You may work efficiently in your professional life, and your subordinates may cooperate with you in making important business decisions. Planning to start a new venture with the help of your siblings and network may be beneficial for business growth. It is advised to take proper rest to maintain your enthusiasm.

Libra Sep 24 – Oct 22
Today, your moon becomes negative, and you may feel detached from the responsibilities you have been given. Be mindful not to spend excessively on worthless items, as this could increase negativity in your house or office. Keep an eye on your opponents and rivals to avoid falling victim to conspiracies. It is advised to carefully read documents before putting your signature.

Scorpio Oct 23 – Nov 22
Today, you are blessed by the moon, and you can enjoy both your family and professional life. Being polite with the people around you can contribute to the smooth completion of your work. You may discover new sources of income, which can boost your savings. Additionally, you may plan to renovate your house or office.

Sagittarius Nov 23 – Dec 22
Today, you are blessed by a positive moon. You may enjoy your work and receive rewards for your hard work. Your social respect may also increase. However, overworking your mind may make you tired, and due to the workload, you may not be able to attend a family event. Chronic health issues related to your parents may be cured now.

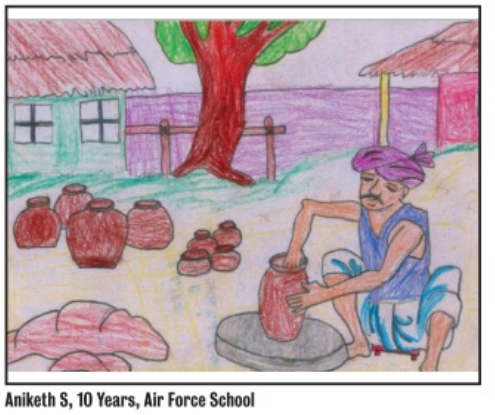
Capricorn Dec 23 – Jan 20
Today, you are blessed by a positive moon, and you may be satisfied with your work. Consider planning a short work-related trip or visiting a spiritual place to maintain your inner peace. Your elders may guide you in the right direction, providing clarity regarding your goals.

Aquarius Jan 21 – Feb 19
Today, your moon becomes negative, and you may feel dull. It is advised to keep your mind cool and remember the golden rule of thinking twice before acting. You may need to travel to recover your money, or else you might risk losing it. Additionally, it is advisable to avoid going on adventure tours. Students are encouraged to engage in in-depth study to achieve success.

Pisces Feb 20 – Mar 20
Today, the moon is on your side and you may feel good. Domestic harmony can bring you happiness. You may have the opportunity to meet influential people who can help you gain benefits in your work. Expect to perform well in your job, and promotions may be on the horizon. Disputes related to inherited property may likely be settled down.

KIDZONE

Yash Krishna, 7 Years, Sri Kumaran Children's Home



Aniketh S, 10 Years, Air Force School

Kidzone, Bangalore Mirror, No.4, KSCCF Compound, Pampa Maha Kavi Road, Chamrajpet, Bengaluru 560 018; Please send hard copies of your artwork in A4 size only.

SOLUTIONS

RIDDLER Mr. X was speeding through the streets of Whitehaven, when he was pulled over by a police officer. "I lost my RADIO!" wailed Mr. X noisily. "It SERVES you right," replied the officer. "Will it come to COURT?" X inquired. "If you keep up this RACKET it will," the officer replied severely. "It is not as if I gained any ADVANTAGE." X said POINTedly. "I would LOVE to LET you off with a caution," admitted the officer, "but I can't allow you through the NET on this one," he continued. Full, Serves, Court, Racket, Advantage, Point, Love, Let, Net. These are all terms used in the game of tennis.

QUOTE UNCODE
Great men's errors are to be venerated as more fruitful than little men's truths.

FAST FIVE

R	A	B	B	I
I	D	O	L	S
G	O	R	A	L
O	B	E	S	E
R	O	S	E	S

STRIKE OUT

A	S	S	A	G	A	I		O	B	O	E	S		
R	W	R		G	L	U	E	S		U				
I	R	A	N	I	A	N		I	T	E	M	S		
S	P		L		I		T			I				
I	M	P	E	L		T	E	R	E	N	C	E		
N		E		G	E	M	S			U				
G	I	D	E	O	N		I	M	A	G	E	S		
	O		S	A	I	L			A		T			
O	U	S	A	S	R		B	E	L	I	E			
O	R	R	I	S		U	N	I	C	O	R	N		
T		I	R	O	N	E		B	W		E			
U		P		S		R		L		R				
	A	B	B	O	T		S	P	E	N	S	E	R	

QUICK

													D	
							T		T		E		D	K

MENSA PUZZLE
9: add the top line of numbers to the bottom line to obtain the middle line, ie 4238?2 + 516359 = 990251
=120÷(6 ·4)
=120÷24 = 5

SOLVE IN 1M

BULL'S EYE
alley, ally, hall, HALLWAY, wall, yawl

SUDOKU

5	3	4	2	7	8	6	9	1
1	7	8	9	6	5	3	2	4
2	9	6	1	3	4	8	7	5
4	5	1	7	8	2	9	3	6
6	2	9	4	5	3	7	1	8
7	8	3	6	9	1	4	5	2
8	1	5	3	4	7	2	6	9
3	6	2	8	1	9	5	4	7
9	4	7	5	2	6	1	8	3

ALPHA TRIANGLE
A, Am, Man, Main, Mania, Airman, Martian.

GO FIGURE
Easy
8 - 9 + 4 + 4 = 7
Medium
4 + 8 + 4 + 2 = 18
Hard
4 + 8 x 5 - 6 = 54

LOOP

KAKURO

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 # No offence
Actress Jennifer Lawrence thinks it's hard to make a comedy "where you're not offending people." The actor has predicted that "everyone" will be offended by the upcoming 'No Hard Feelings'

BangaloreMirror | 12
Friday, June 23, 2023
mybangaloremirror@timesgroup.com
@BangaloreMirror
Entertainment Industry Promotion

Back together

Back in 2019, Kareena Kapoor Khan and Kiara Advani's fun camaraderie in 'Good Newwz' was massively welcomed by fans. More of that is in store as the duo have decided to reunite.

Buzz is that Bebo and Kiara have signed up for Ashwiny Iyer Tiwari's next directorial, which will be backed by Farhan Akhtar and Ritesh Sidhwani's production house. Both the actresses have given a nod to the project after herding the subject and the director is working on wrapping the script.

Once the final narration is done, Kareena and Kiara are expected to sign on the dotted line.

Currently, Kiara Advani is going all out with the promotions of her upcoming release 'Satyaprem Ki Katha'. She has reunited with her 'Bhool Bhulaiyaa 2' co-star Kartik Aaryan. Speaking about their reunion, Kiara recently shared, "From then to now we have grown up professionally and personally. During the shooting of Bhool Bhulaiyaa 2 I used to scream at Kartik saying 'don't make me wait'."

Kareena Kapoor has two promising projects in the pipeline, Sujoy Ghosh's thriller based on 2005 bestselling Japanese novel 'The Devotion of Suspect X'. She shares the frame with Jaideep Ahlawat and Vijay Verma in this entertainer, which will mark Kareena's OTT debut. The actress will also mark her production debut with Hansal Mehta's next, wherein she plays the lead. **—ETimes**

EXCITING TIME.

Nora Fatehi is thrilled ahead of launch of her new international single

Nora Fatehi is getting ready to launch her new International single 'Sexy In My Dress' . It's just 3 days away. The song will go online on Friday, June 23.

Nora's music videos are known to garner millions of views and are often full of high-octane beats, immaculate choreography and impeccable fashion sense.

So what's the new excitement in her life about? Well, her
next single is titled 'Sexy In My Dress'.

And no prizes for guessing, it will have oodles of oomph. And, like she turned singer in her previous international singles- 'Pepeta', 'Arabic Dilbar' and 'Dirty Little Secret', Nora has lent her voice to this one too. The FIFA World Cup 2022 closing anthem also was sung by Nora.

Nora shares with ETimes, "I'm really excited to announce my international solo single 'Sexy in my Dress' which I sang and produced the music video for! It's a fun, flirty summer jam with some great dance choreography! The teaser is out now and I can't wait to release the official music video on my YouTube channel on June 23. A lot went behind the making of the song and the visuals."

Added Nora, "This one is however different for me because it marks my first ever solo singing project and so frankly, I can't wait to see how the fans respond to it."

—Vickey Lalwani, ETimes

Off on a holiday

After a long and hectic week of film shoots and promotional events, Ranbir Kapoor and Alia Bhatt packed their bags and headed out on a family holiday with their baby Raha Kapoor.

The star couple were all smiles as they arrived at the airport early Thursday morning. While Ranbir rocked shades of white, Alia contrasted in an all-black ensemble. The two could not hold back their smiles as the paparazzi teased them saying, "Jiji aur jija'.

The shutterbugs also showered praise on Alia's new 'Rocky Aur Rani Kii Prem Kahaani' teaser, to which the actress said, "Thank you!" According to reports, Alia, Ranbir and baby Raha are flying out to Dubai for a holiday. **—ETimes**

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